

Case 2711

***Shoemakerella* Pirlot, 1936 (Crustacea, Amphipoda): proposed designation of *Lysianax cubensis* Stebbing, 1897 as the type species**

J. K. Lowry & H. E. Stoddart

Australian Museum, P.O. Box A285, Sydney South, NSW 2000, Australia

Abstract. The purpose of this application is the designation of the nominal species *Lysianax cubensis* Stebbing, 1897 as the type species of *Shoemakerella* Pirlot, 1936, a genus of lysianassoid amphipod. The original designation was of a misidentified species. This proposal maintains *Shoemakerella* in its original meaning.

1. Pirlot (1936, p. 264) established the genus *Shoemakerella* and designated *Lysianassa nasuta* Dana, 1853 (p. 915) as the nominal type species, with *Lysianax cubensis* Stebbing, 1897 (p. 29) as a junior subjective synonym.

2. For the reasons given below we believe that Pirlot based his diagnosis of the genus on a misidentified type species, and we refer the case to the Commission in accordance with Article 70b of the Code.

3. *Lysianassa nasuta* was described from material collected at Rio de Janeiro by the U.S. Exploring Expedition 1838–1842. The type material is considered lost (T. Bowman, U.S. National Museum of Natural History, in litt.) and the species has not been re-collected from Rio de Janeiro despite recent attempts to find it (J. L. Barnard and J. D. Thomas, in litt.).

4. *Lysianax cubensis* was described from a single specimen in the Zoologisk Museum, Copenhagen, collected in Cuba. This type is also considered lost (T. Wolff, Zoologisk Museum, Copenhagen, in litt., and J. Ellis, British Museum (Natural History), in litt.). *Lysianax* Stebbing, 1888 is an unnecessary replacement name for *Lysianassa* H. Milne Edwards, 1830.

5. Shoemaker (1935) pointed out that *Lysianassa cubensis* had been misidentified as *Lysianopsis alba* Holmes, 1904. He recorded *L. cubensis* from Puerto Rico and Florida and re-illustrated some parts.

6. Pirlot (1936, pp. 256, 265) stated that he had identified *Lysianopsis alba* from material collected at Rio de Janeiro and this led him to think that perhaps *Lysianopsis alba* was a synonym of *Lysianassa nasuta*. He had written to Shoemaker about this possibility. Shoemaker sent material of *Lysianopsis alba* and *Lysianassa cubensis* to Pirlot, and replied that he [Shoemaker] had overlooked Dana's *Lysianassa nasuta* and that in his opinion *L. cubensis* was a junior synonym of *L. nasuta*.

7. A comparison of the third uropods in the original illustrations of *L. nasuta* and *L. cubensis* is sufficient to show, however, that they are not conspecific. In *L. cubensis* the peduncle of uropod 3 is short, with a strong lateral flange, and the rami are short and strongly tapered; in *L. nasuta* the peduncle is longer, the flange is absent and the rami are longer and more cylindrical.

8. In his diagnosis of the genus *Shoemakerella* Pirlot (1936, p. 265) described uropod 3 as "court, présentant du côté externe et dorsal une expansion lamellaire". This description fits *L. cubensis* but not *L. nasuta*. The diagnosis also described antenna 2 as being the same in both sexes, "(d'après Shoemaker)", a character not reported for *L. nasuta* and known only from Shoemaker's (1935, p. 234) report of *L. cubensis*. In designating the type species of *Shoemakerella* Pirlot wrote "*Shoemakerella nasuta* Dana, espèce redécrite ensuite par Stebbing sous le nom de *Lysianax cubensis*." The conclusion is inescapable that Pirlot's genus was in fact based on Stebbing's figures of *L. cubensis* and the *L. cubensis* material sent to him by Shoemaker.

9. The species described by Dana as *Lysianassa nasuta* remains obscure. However, there is sufficient evidence to show that it does not fit Pirlot's concept of *Shoemakerella* and probably belongs in either *Lysianopsis* or *Lysianassa*.

10. *Shoemakerella* has twice been placed in synonymy: with *Lysianopsis* Holmes, 1904 by Hurley (1963, pp. 70, 73), and with *Lysianassa* Milne Edwards, 1830 by Barnard (1969, p. 175). Both Hurley and Barnard specifically stated that their concept of *Shoemakerella* was based on *L. cubensis*.

11. We consider Pirlot's concept of *Shoemakerella*, based not on the nominal type species *Lysianassa nasuta* Dana, 1853 but on actual specimens of *Lysianax cubensis* Stebbing, 1897, to represent a valid genus. We have several new species which should be assigned to this genus and we know of at least one other worker in a similar situation.

12. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to set aside all previous designations of type species for the nominal genus *Shoemakerella* Pirlot, 1936, and to designate as the type species *Lysianax cubensis* Stebbing, 1897;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the name *Shoemakerella* Pirlot, 1936 (gender: feminine), type species by designation in (1) above *Lysianax cubensis* Stebbing, 1897;
- (3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *cubensis* Stebbing, 1897, as published in the binomen *Lysianax cubensis* (specific name of the type species of *Shoemakerella* Pirlot, 1936).

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